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C O N F I D E N T I A L BUENOS AIRES 001305 SENSITIVE

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note of the new areas of cooperation that would become available if the GOA followed through on its announced plans to pay off Paris Club debt, participate. Garre voiced appreciation for U.S. assistance in training and reform efforts at the Ministry and left open the possibility of working out differences over a previously agreed Information As decision to follow through on the meeting with Ambassador was significant given current difficulties in the U.S.-Argentina relationship flowing from the Miami trial of Franklin Duran (reftel), and she evinced no disposition to scale back collaboration. End Summary.

military cooperation and to touch base following Garre's September 4 meeting with Secretary Gates at the Western Hemisphere Defense Ministerial in Banff, Canada. Garre was accompanied by her two senior deputies, Secretary for

International Affairs Alfredo Forti and Secretary for Military Affairs German Montenegro. Ambassador was accompanied by Mil Group Commander, N make avaQable to Argentina Foreign Military Financing (PMF), Global Peacekeeping Operations Initiative (GPOI) material support, and access to F this could be used for such things as fuel, which we provided. Garre was noncommittal on the point. 4. (SBU) Garre was also neutral when the surprised that they had. Cruz del Sur ----- 5. (SBU) Ambassador reiterated to Garre that the U.S. Government stood ready to support the Sur could formally participate, Garre said that would not be possible until it was officially established, but that Chilean and Argentine milit ----- 6. (SBU) Garre noted the challenges she was facing in reforming Argentina's defense procurement procedures and was pleased that the U.S. would be sending experts to an end of

October conference on defense logistics. She said that Argentina sought to learn from the U.S. experiences and that progress had been made. Opportunities. MilGrp Commander noted the importance of avoiding cancellations within 30 days of planned trainings, which made it impossible t from the GOA's response was that the SGP along with the MOD would each receive a place on the steering committee, compared to one seat for the 18. (SBU) Garre voiced appreciation for the delivery of two H3 Sea King helicopters at Bahia Blanca, saying that she had just seen them but ha Paraguayan operators. Vetting Challenge ----- 9. (SBU) Secretary Forti raised the one issue initiated by the Argentine side during National Defense School. Both had been identified for associations with human rights violations by Department vetting, long after they had jc the first rejection and had coordinated on solutions (Garre complained to her deputies that she had not been informed until the eve of her Sept basis of our refusal). Comment: Positive, Restrained ----- 10. (C) Coming as it did amidst virulent anti-U.S. bashing by some members of C photographer. (During our previous period of Miami case-related bilateral tension, the Ambassador was embargoed from official meetings with Ca End Comment. WAYNE